

# Matrix Population Models for Wildlife Conservation and Management

27 February - 5 March 2016

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## Lecture 4 Generation time

Alfred J. LOTKA,  
The father of « mathematical demography »

*Like most mathematicians, he takes the hopeful biologist to the edge of a pond, points out that a good swim will help his work, and then pushes him in and leaves him to drown.*

Charles ELTON



## A classical age-dependent Leslie matrix

Pre birth-pulse matrix:  
fecundities x 1<sup>st</sup> year survival = « net fecundities »

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} f_1 s_1 & f_2 s_1 & \dots & f_i s_1 & \dots & f_n s_n \\ s_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & s_3 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & s_{i+1} & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \dots & s_n & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Aging + survival:  
survival probabilities  
on 1st sub-diagonal

## MANY age classes over ONE time step

$$\begin{array}{lcl} t-1 & & t \\ N_1 & \rightarrow & N_1 = \sum f_i s_i N_i(t-1) \\ N_2 & \rightarrow & N_2 = s_2 N_1(t-1) \\ N_3 & \rightarrow & N_3 = s_3 N_2(t-1) \\ \dots & & \dots \\ N_{n-1} & \rightarrow & N_{n-1} = s_{n-1} N_{n-2}(t-1) \\ N_n & \rightarrow & N_n = s_n N_{n-1}(t-1) \end{array}$$

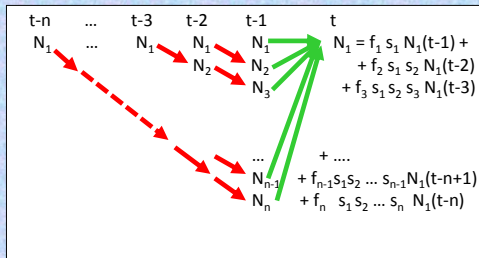
## MANY age classes over ONE time step

$$\begin{array}{lcl} t-1 & & t \\ N_1 & \rightarrow & N_1 = \sum f_i s_i N_i(t-1) \\ N_2 & \rightarrow & \text{expands as} \\ N_3 & \rightarrow & \\ \dots & & \dots \\ N_{n-1} & \rightarrow & \\ N_n & \rightarrow & \end{array}$$

## MANY age classes over ONE time step

$$\begin{array}{lcl} t-1 & & t \\ N_1 & \rightarrow & N_1 = f_1 s_1 N_1(t-1) \\ N_2 & \rightarrow & + f_2 s_1 N_2(t-1) \\ N_3 & \rightarrow & + f_3 s_1 N_3(t-1) \\ \dots & & + \dots \\ N_{n-1} & \rightarrow & + f_{n-1} s_1 N_{n-1}(t-1) \\ N_n & \rightarrow & + f_n s_1 N_n(t-1) \end{array}$$

## ONE age class over MANY time steps



**Renewal equation**  $N_1(t) = \sum f_i l_i N_1(t-i)$  with  $l_i = s_1 \dots s_i$

## Euler-Lotka equation

$$N_1(t) = \sum f_i l_i N_1(t-i) \quad \text{with } l_i = s_1 \dots s_i$$

However, under asymptotic regime:  $N_1(t-i) = \lambda^{-i} N_1(t)$

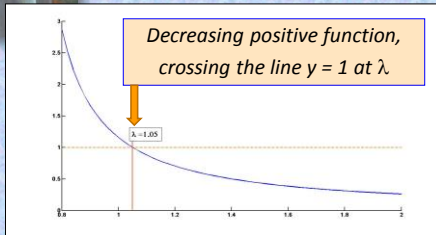
Hence:  $N_1(t) = \sum f_i l_i \lambda^{-i} N_1(t)$

i.e.  $1 = \sum f_i l_i \lambda^{-i}$

Valid for any number of age classes (even  $\infty$ )

**Euler - Lotka equation**

1760 and 1911, respectively

Euler-Lotka equation  
Swallow example

## Two sides of the same coin



**Stable Pop.Theory**  
Euler - Lotka equation  
1760 and 1911, respectively

**Leslie Matrices**  
Age-structured Matrix models  
1945, 1948

**Stable Population Theory**  
to be expanded later  
to stage-structured matrix models

## Generation time

|                     |                        |     |                        |                        |                        |              |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| time                | t-n                    | ... | t-3                    | t-2                    | t-1                    | t            |
| contribution        | $f_n l_n \lambda^{-n}$ | ... | $f_3 l_3 \lambda^{-3}$ | $f_2 l_2 \lambda^{-2}$ | $f_1 l_1 \lambda^{-1}$ | $\Sigma = 1$ |
| age of mothers at t | n                      | ... | 3                      | 2                      | 1                      |              |

**Stable distribution of the Age of mothers at birth**

Mean age of mothers at birth (in asymptotic regime)

$$T = \sum i f_i l_i \lambda^{-i}$$

$\bar{T}$ , Generation time, Leslie 1966,  
Hereafter denoted as  $T$

## Derived quantities

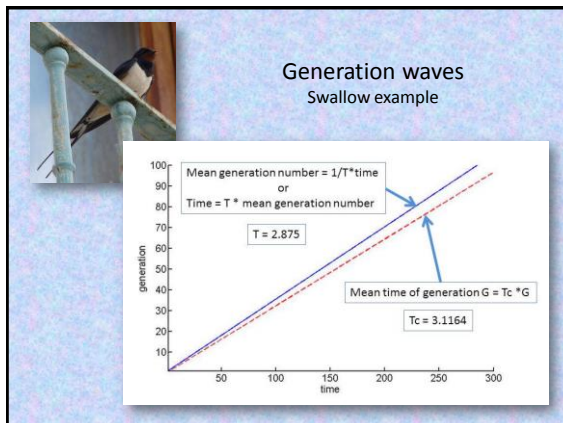
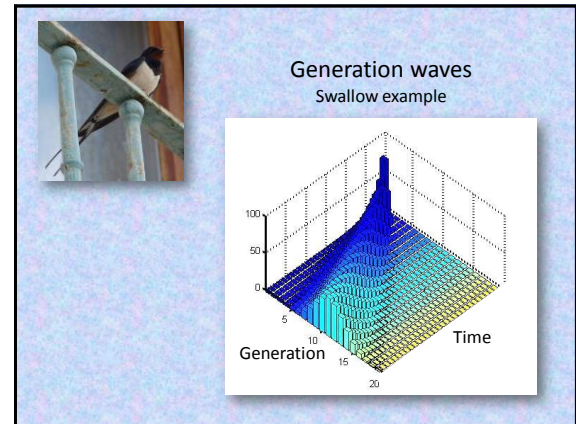
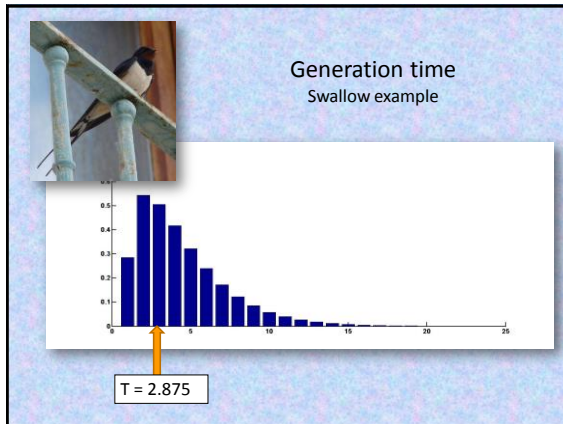
Number of individuals per mother in next generation

$$R_0 = \sum f_i l_i$$

Mean age of child birth along a mother's life

$$T_C = \sum i f_i l_i / \sum f_i l_i$$

Cohort Generation Time



Nathan Keyfitz,  
1913-2010

Generation time  
and Sensitivity Analysis

The Euler-Lotka equation is an implicit function, linking any generic parameter  $\theta$  and  $\lambda$ :

$$\phi(\theta, \lambda) = \sum f_i(\theta) l_i(\theta) \lambda^{-i} = 1$$

If  $\theta \rightarrow \theta + d\theta$ ,  $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda + d\lambda$ , but  $\phi$  remains equal to 1, i.e.  $d\phi = 0$

As a consequence  $0 = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \lambda} d\lambda + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} d\theta$

Hence  $d\lambda/d\theta = -(\partial \phi / \partial \theta) / (\partial \phi / \partial \lambda)$

Generation time and Sensitivity Analysis

$$d\lambda/d\theta = -(\partial \phi / \partial \theta) / (\partial \phi / \partial \lambda)$$

From  $\phi = \sum f_i l_i \lambda^{-i}$ ,  $\partial \phi / \partial \lambda = \sum i f_i l_i \lambda^{-i-1} = -T / \lambda$

From  $l_i = s_1 \dots s_i$ ,  $\partial \phi / \partial s_1 = \sum f_i (l_i / s_1) \lambda^{-i} = (1/s_1) \sum f_i l_i \lambda^{-i} = 1/s_1$

Sensitivity  $d\lambda/ds_1 = \lambda / (s_1 T)$

Elasticity  $(s_1 / \lambda) d\lambda/ds_1 = 1/T$

same result for a change in all fecundities  
same result for all parameters < 1<sup>st</sup> reprod.  
(« immature parameters »)

Generation time and turnover

Elasticity  $(s_1 / \lambda) d\lambda/ds_1 = 1/T$

However  $(s_1 / \lambda) d\lambda/ds_1 = u_1 v_1$   
under  $\sum u_i v_i = 1$

Hence  $1/T = u_1 v_1$  under  $\sum u_i v_i = 1$

**A measure of turnover:**

- the proportion of new individuals, in reproductive value
- Also the asymptotic increase in mean generation number per year





### Sensitivity analysis Survival

$$M \rightarrow M_h = (1-h)M \quad MV = \lambda V \Rightarrow (1-h)MV = (1-h)\lambda V$$

$$\text{Hence } M_h V = (1-h)\lambda V$$

$$\lambda \rightarrow \lambda_h = (1-h)\lambda, \text{ asymptotic structure } V \text{ unchanged}$$

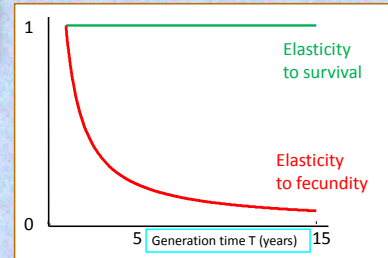
x % change in all  $s_i \rightarrow$  x % change in  $\lambda$

The elasticity of  $\lambda$  wrt to  $\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_T, \dots\}$  is 1



Jean Clobert

### Sensitivity analysis Fecundity and Survival Lebreton and Clobert 1991



### Sensitivity analysis and Generation time



Albatross,  $T \approx 24$  y:  
-30 % in Fecundity  $\Rightarrow$   
-1.25 % in growth rate

*In any sharp-decline of a long lived species,  
first suspect a change in survival*

